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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/579,329	Applicant(s) MIYAJIMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Kai Rajan	Art Unit 3736	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 May 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☒ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/15/2006 & 8/2/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Note to Applicant Regarding Claim Interpretation

The word “wherein” in the claim(s) may be interpreted as intended use. Intended use/functional language does not require that reference specifically teach the intended use of the element. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1 – 5, 7 – 28, 30 – 36, and 39 – 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ark et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,190,314.

1. An input device comprising:

bioindex detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, that user holds in use, and for detecting, for a time period during which user grasps the body to be operated, bioindex of the user through skin of the user; and bioindex analyzing means for analyzing bioindex which has been detected by the bioindex detecting means (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

2. The input device according to claim 1,

wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), and combination of these bioindices (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

3. The input device according to claim 1,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is detecting means for detecting Galvanic Skin Reflex or Galvanic Skin Response between predetermined two points of palm of one hand of user (Column 2 lines 12 – 63, figure 2).

4. The input device according to claim 1,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is pulse wave detecting means for detecting pulse wave of user (Figure 2).

5. The input device according to claim 1,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is temperature detecting means for detecting body temperature of user (Figure 2).

7. The input device according to claim 1, including:

the plural bioindex detecting means,

the input device further comprising:

selector means for selecting at least one bioindex information from bioindex information which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means, wherein the bioindex analyzing means serves to analyze bioindex information which has been selected by the selector means (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

8. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to compare signal-to-noise ratios of output values which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means to select an output value having value of higher signal-to-noise ratio (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

9. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to compare detection levels of output values which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means to select an output value having higher detection level (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

10. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to compare auto-correlation functions of output values which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means to select an output value in which correlation has been taken to more degree (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

11. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to select one output from outputs from the plural bioindex detecting means (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

12. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to select, as an output value, a value which has been detected substantially as the same value at the plural bioindex detecting means (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

13. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to select, as an output value, an average value obtained by averaging values detected at the respective bioindex detecting means (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

14. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the respective plural bioindex detecting means are similar bioindex detecting means for detecting the same bioindex (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

15. The input device according to claim 7,
wherein the respective plural bioindex detecting means are different kinds of bioindex detecting means for detecting the same bioindex by different techniques (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

16. The input device according to claim 7,
wherein the respective plural bioindex detecting means are different kinds of bioindex detecting means for detecting different bioindices (Column 5 lines 19 – 67, column 6 lines 1 – 54).

17. The input device according to claim 7,
wherein the input device is provided at an operation input unit of any one of electronic equipments including personal computer, television image receiver, video and/or audio signal recording and/or reproducing device and air conditioner (Column 3 lines 21 – 38).

18. The input device according to claim 7,
wherein the input device is provided at controller for television game machine (Column 3 lines 21 – 38).

19. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein each of the plural bioindex detecting means is provided at a control or steering unit that user holds in control or steering at any one of machines to be controlled including automotive vehicle, train, airplane, ship and industrial machinery (Column 3 lines 21 – 38).

20. An input method including:

a bioindex detection step of detecting, by detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, that user holds in use, bioindex of the user through skin of the user for a time period during which the user holds the body to be operated (Column 2 lines 12 – 63); and

a bioindex analysis step of analyzing bioindex which has been detected at the bioindex detection step (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

21. The input method according to claim 20,

wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, skin temperature, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), or combination of these bioindices (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

22. The input method according to claim 20,

wherein the bioindex detection step consists of plural bioindex detection steps, the input method including:

a selection step of selecting at least one bioindex information from bioindex information which have been detected at the plural bioindex detection steps (Column 3 lines 21 – 38); and

a bioindex analysis step of analyzing bioindex information which has been selected at the selection step (Column 3 lines 21 – 38).

23. The input method according to claim 22,

wherein the respective plural bioindex detection steps detect the same bioindex (Column 3 lines 21 – 38).

24. The input method according to claim 22,

wherein the respective plural bioindex detection steps detect the same bioindex by different techniques (Column 3 lines 21 – 38).

25. The input method according to claim 22,

wherein the respective plural bioindex detection steps detect different bioindices (Column 3 lines 21 – 38).

26. An electronic equipment including an input unit comprising:

bioindex detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, with which finger comes into contact when user grasps the body to be operated through the finger in use, and for detecting bioindex of the user through skin

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of the user for a time period during which the user grasps the body to be operated by finger (Column 2 lines 12 – 63); and

bioindex analyzing means for analyzing bioindex which has been detected by the bioindex detecting means (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

27. The electronic equipment according to claim 26,

wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, skin temperature, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), and combination of these bioindices (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

28. The electronic equipment according to claim 26,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is detecting means for detecting Galvanic Skin Reflex or Galvanic Skin Response between predetermined two points of palm of one hand of user (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

30. The electronic equipment according to claim 28, comprising:

operation means for an operation input (Column 2 lines 12 – 63),

wherein the detecting means is provided at a position with which finger of user comes into contact of the surface of the operation means (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

31. The electronic equipment according to claim 28,

wherein the detecting means is provided at the corner portion of the casing (Column 2 lines 12 – 63, figure 1).

32. The electronic equipment according to claim 28,
wherein the bioindex detecting means is pulse wave detecting means for detecting pulse wave of user (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

33. The electronic equipment according to claim 32,
wherein display means for displaying guide display for operation and information is provided at the front face portion of the casing, and the pulse wave detecting means is provided at the rear face portion opposite to the front face portion of the casing (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

34. The electronic equipment according to claim 33,
wherein a detection portion comprising a finger holding cover having internal surface shape curved so as to take substantially the same shape as finger tip shape of the user, and a finger chip insertion portion formed between the finger holding cover and the rear face of the casing is provided at the rear face portion side of the casing, light emitting means being provided at the inner surface of the finger holding cover, light receiving means as the pulse wave detecting means being provided at the rear face of the casing opposite to the light emitting means (Column 3 lines 47 – 67).

35. The electronic equipment according to claim 26,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is temperature detecting means for detecting body temperature of user (Column 4 lines 1 – 41).

36. The electronic equipment according to claim 35,
wherein the temperature detecting means is composed of finger tip temperature detecting means provided at a position with which finger comes into contact when the temperature detecting means is grasped by the finger of the user and for detecting finger chip temperature, and palm temperature detecting means provided at a position with which palm of the user comes into contact and for detecting palm temperature (Column 4 lines 1 – 41).

39. The electronic equipment according to claim 36, wherein the palm temperature detecting means is provided at the corner portion of the outer peripheral surface side of the casing (Column 4 lines 1 – 41).

40. The electronic equipment according to claim 36,
wherein a detecting portion comprising a finger holding cover having an internal surface shape curved so as to take substantially the same shape as finger tip shape of the user, and a finger tip insertion portion formed between the finger holding cover and the rear face of the casing is provided at the rear face portion side of the casing (Column 3 lines 47 – 67),
the finger tip temperature detecting means being provided at the rear face portion of the casing (Column 3 lines 47 – 67).

41. The electronic equipment according to claim 26, including:

the plural bioindex detecting means, the electronic equipment further comprising selector means for selecting at least one bioindex information from bioindex information which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means (Column 2 lines 12 – 63);

wherein the bioindex analyzing means serves to analyze bioindex information which has been selected by the selector means (Column 2 lines 12 – 63).

Claims 1, 2, 20, 21, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tapper et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,190,056.

1. An input device comprising:

bioindex detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, that user holds in use, and for detecting, for a time period during which user grasps the body to be operated, bioindex of the user through skin of the user; and bioindex analyzing means for analyzing bioindex which has been detected by the bioindex detecting means (Column 1 lines 56 – 68, column 2 lines 1 – 59).

2. The input device according to claim 1,

wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), and combination of these bioindices (Column 1 lines 56 – 68, column 2 lines 1 – 59).

20. An input method including:

a bioindex detection step of detecting, by detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, that user holds in use, bioindex of the user through skin of the user for a time period during which the user holds the body to be operated (Column 1 lines 56 – 68, column 2 lines 1 – 59); and

a bioindex analysis step of analyzing bioindex which has been detected at the bioindex detection step (Column 1 lines 56 – 68, column 2 lines 1 – 59).

21. The input method according to claim 20,

wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, skin temperature, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), or combination of these bioindices (Column 1 lines 56 – 68, column 2 lines 1 – 59).

26. An electronic equipment including an input unit comprising:

bioindex detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, with which finger comes into contact when user grasps the body to be operated through the finger in use, and for detecting bioindex of the user through skin of the user for a time period during which the user grasps the body to be operated by finger (Column 1 lines 56 – 68, column 2 lines 1 – 59); and

bioindex analyzing means for analyzing bioindex which has been detected by the bioindex detecting means (Column 1 lines 56 – 68, column 2 lines 1 – 59).

27. The electronic equipment according to claim 26,
wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, skin temperature, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), and combination of these bioindices (Column 1 lines 56 – 68, column 2 lines 1 – 59).

Claims 1, 2, 4 – 16, 20 – 33, 35 – 39, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Collins U.S. Patent No. 7,262,703.

1. An input device comprising:
bioindex detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, that user holds in use, and for detecting, for a time period during which user grasps the body to be operated, bioindex of the user through skin of the user; and bioindex analyzing means for analyzing bioindex which has been detected by the bioindex detecting means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43).

2. The input device according to claim 1,

wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), and combination of these bioindices (Column 10 lines 9 – 27).

4. The input device according to claim 1,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is pulse wave detecting means for detecting pulse wave of user (Column 10 lines 9 – 27).

5. The input device according to claim 1,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is temperature detecting means for detecting body temperature of user (Column 10 lines 9 – 27).

6. The input device according to claim 5,

wherein the temperature detecting means is composed of finger tip temperature detecting means for detecting finger tip temperature provided at a position with which finger tip comes into contact when the finger tip temperature detecting means is grasped by finger of the user, and palm temperature detecting means provided at a position with which palm of the user comes into contact and for detecting palm temperature (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

7. The input device according to claim 1, including:

the plural bioindex detecting means,

the input device further comprising:

selector means for selecting at least one bioindex information from bioindex information which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means, wherein the bioindex analyzing means serves to analyze bioindex information which has been selected by the selector means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

8. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to compare signal-to-noise ratios of output values which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means to select an output value having value of higher signal-to-noise ratio (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

9. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to compare detection levels of output values which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means to select an output value having higher detection level (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

10. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the selector means serves to compare auto-correlation functions of output values which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means to select an output value in which correlation has been taken to more degree (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

11. The input device according to claim 7,
wherein the selector means serves to select one output from outputs from the plural bioindex detecting means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

12. The input device according to claim 7,
wherein the selector means serves to select, as an output value, a value which has been detected substantially as the same value at the plural bioindex detecting means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

13. The input device according to claim 7,
wherein the selector means serves to select, as an output value, an average value obtained by averaging values detected at the respective bioindex detecting means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

14. The input device according to claim 7,
wherein the respective plural bioindex detecting means are similar bioindex detecting means for detecting the same bioindex (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

15. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the respective plural bioindex detecting means are different kinds of bioindex detecting means for detecting the same bioindex by different techniques (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

16. The input device according to claim 7,

wherein the respective plural bioindex detecting means are different kinds of bioindex detecting means for detecting different bioindices (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

20. An input method including:

a bioindex detection step of detecting, by detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, that user holds in use, bioindex of the user through skin of the user for a time period during which the user holds the body to be operated (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43); and

a bioindex analysis step of analyzing bioindex which has been detected at the bioindex detection step (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43).

21. The input method according to claim 20,

wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, skin temperature, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), or combination of these bioindices (Column 10 lines 9 – 27).

22. The input method according to claim 20,
wherein the bioindex detection step consists of plural bioindex detection steps, the input method including:

a selection step of selecting at least one bioindex information from bioindex information which have been detected at the plural bioindex detection steps (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43); and

a bioindex analysis step of analyzing bioindex information which has been selected at the selection step (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43).

23. The input method according to claim 22,
wherein the respective plural bioindex detection steps detect the same bioindex (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43).

24. The input method according to claim 22,
wherein the respective plural bioindex detection steps detect the same bioindex by different techniques (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43).

25. The input method according to claim 22,
wherein the respective plural bioindex detection steps detect different bioindices (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43).

26. An electronic equipment including an input unit comprising:

bioindex detecting means provided within a region including a holding position of the surface of a body to be operated, with which finger comes into contact when user grasps the body to be operated through the finger in use, and for detecting bioindex of the user through skin of the user for a time period during which the user grasps the body to be operated by finger (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43); and

bioindex analyzing means for analyzing bioindex which has been detected by the bioindex detecting means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43).

27. The electronic equipment according to claim 26,

wherein the bioindex is at least one of sweating, heartbeat, pulse wave, skin temperature, Galvanic Skin Reflex, Galvanic Skin Response, MV (Micro Vibration), myoelectric potential and SPO2 (blood oxygen saturation level), and combination of these bioindices (Column 10 lines 9 – 27).

28. The electronic equipment according to claim 26,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is detecting means for detecting Galvanic Skin Reflex or Galvanic Skin Response between predetermined two points of palm of one hand of user (Column 10 lines 9 – 27).

29. The electronic equipment according to claim 28,

wherein display means for displaying guide display for operation and information is provided at the front face portion of a casing, the detecting means being provided at the side surface portion of the casing (Column 6 lines 12 – 67, column 7 lines 1 – 60).

30. The electronic equipment according to claim 28, comprising:

operation means for an operation input (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67),

wherein the detecting means is provided at a position with which finger of user comes into contact of the surface of the operation means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

31. The electronic equipment according to claim 28,

wherein the detecting means is provided at the corner portion of the casing (Column 6 lines 12 – 67, column 7 lines 1 – 60).

32. The electronic equipment according to claim 28,

wherein the bioindex detecting means is pulse wave detecting means for detecting pulse wave of user (Column 6 lines 12 – 67, column 7 lines 1 – 60).

33. The electronic equipment according to claim 32,

wherein display means for displaying guide display for operation and information is provided at the front face portion of the casing, and the pulse wave detecting means is provided

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at the rear face portion opposite to the front face portion of the casing (Column 6 lines 12 – 67, column 7 lines 1 – 60).

35. The electronic equipment according to claim 26,
wherein the bioindex detecting means is temperature detecting means for detecting body temperature of user (Column 10 lines 9 – 27).

36. The electronic equipment according to claim 35,
wherein the temperature detecting means is composed of finger tip temperature detecting means provided at a position with which finger comes into contact when the temperature detecting means is grasped by the finger of the user and for detecting finger chip temperature, and palm temperature detecting means provided at a position with which palm of the user comes into contact and for detecting palm temperature (Column 6 lines 12 – 67, column 7 lines 1 – 60).

37. The electronic equipment according to claim 36, comprising:
display means serving to display guide display for operation and information at an outer casing front face portion, wherein one of the temperature detecting means is provided at the side surface portion with respect to the outer casing front face portion (Column 6 lines 12 – 67, column 7 lines 1 – 60).

38. The electronic equipment according to claim 36, comprising: operation means,
wherein the finger tip temperature detecting means is provided at a position with which finger of

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user comes into contact of the surface of the operation means (Column 6 lines 12 – 67, column 7 lines 1 – 60).

39. The electronic equipment according to claim 36, wherein the palm temperature detecting means is provided at the corner portion of the outer peripheral surface side of the casing (Column 6 lines 12 – 67, column 7 lines 1 – 60).

41. The electronic equipment according to claim 26, including:

the plural bioindex detecting means, the electronic equipment further comprising selector means for selecting at least one bioindex information from bioindex information which have been detected by the plural bioindex detecting means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67);

wherein the bioindex analyzing means serves to analyze bioindex information which has been selected by the selector means (Column 3 lines 12 – 67, column 4 lines 1 – 43, column 7 lines 46 – 67).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kai Rajan whose telephone number is (571)272-3077. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00AM to 4:00PM.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kai Rajan/
Examiner, Art Unit 3736

/Max Hindenburg/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3736

July 29, 2008